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## **DEDICATED SENIOR COMPANION RECOGNIZED FOR HER VOLUNTEER EFFORTS**

*Volunteer Does All She Can to Help Developmentally Disabled Adults*

**SACRAMENTO** - The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) *Spotlight* features the hard work of Etta Reyes, a Senior Companion who at 81, rides the bus every morning for over an hour to volunteer four hours with adults with developmental disabilities. Ms. Reyes volunteers at Arc Ventura County, a private, non profit organization that provides educational, vocational, and residential services for people with developmental disabilities.

As a volunteer, Ms. Reyes has been an invaluable help to the organization. She created a garden at the Arc facility. She used clippings from her own garden and has the adults help her care for and water the plants. Ms. Reyes and the adults are utterly delighted by the transformation that has happened in the garden, which is now a thriving beautiful addition to the facility. In addition, Ms. Reyes organized a choral group comprised of fellow volunteers who perform monthly.

"Etta is an example for us all, she mixes love and compassion into her volunteering," Executive Director of GO SERV, David Muraki said. "The adults that she works with respond to her, and that's all any volunteer can ask for."

The GO SERV Spotlight recognizes people and programs, on a weekly basis, making a difference in their communities through service and volunteerism. To view the full Spotlight story, visit the GO SERV website at [www.goserv.ca.gov](http://www.goserv.ca.gov). Visitors to the GO SERV site can nominate someone for a Spotlight award and/or find a volunteer opportunity in their community through the volunteer match program.

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